

Wildlife Restoration/Hunter Education Advisory Team

Advisory 2020-018: Guided Services and Guided Hunts for Recruitment and Retention of Hunters and Recreational Shooters

August 25, 2020



Can a State fish and wildlife agency pay for guided hunts (non-stocked) of wild birds and mammals as part of an R3 grant?

Discussion:

There is little case history that provides evidence that purchasing guide services for guided hunts will result in new or retained hunters and shooters. However, purchasing guide services falls within the examples of activities listed in the Modernizing PR Act as activities to recruit or retain hunters and recreational shooters. A continuous evaluation of the results of these guided services and hunts will be essential to determine if these projects are substantial in character and design.

Advisory: Yes, guide services and guided hunts of wild birds and mammals are eligible activities and allowable costs if included as necessary and reasonable activities to meet objectives of a WSFR-funded R3 grant or skills development through Enhanced Hunter Education. Guide services and guided hunts are included as eligible activities in the Modernizing the Pittman-Robertson Fund for Tomorrow's Needs Act and allowable costs under 2 CFR 200, as follows:

(1) The Modernizing PR Act defines *hunter recruitment and recreational shooter recruitment* (as codified at 16 U.S.C. 669a(3)) to include:

"...any activity or project to recruit or retain hunters and recreational shooter including by –
...

(B) Providing education, mentoring, and field demonstrations;

(C) Enhancing access for hunting and recreational shooting..."

(2) 2 CFR 200. 459(a) states *"costs of professional and consultant services rendered by persons who are members of a particular profession or possess a special skill, and who are not officers or employees of the non-Federal entity, are allowable."*

Guided services and guided hunt activities are considered eligible using funds at:

- 16 U.S.C. 669h-1(a) (Enhanced Hunter Education/R3)
- 16 U.S.C. 669c(c) (Basic Hunter Education or R3)